The Bulletin.

THE Illinois legislature will adjourn on next Thursday, 24th inst.

EX-PRESIDENT GRANT, Mrs. Grant and son sailed from Philadelphia for Europe, by the steamer Indiana, Thursday.

CAPT. EADS is now in New York for the purpose of borrowing money with which to carry on the work at the jetties until the time that the second instalment is due from the government. This will be when he has twenty-two feet in the channel. He says he has now twenty feet in fully half the channel, and expects to have the required depth the full length of the channel to secure the second payment of five hundred thousand dollars by the close of next September.

IN THE election of Associate Justice Willard to the chief justiceship of the supreme court of South Carolina, Gov. Hampton has gained a signal victory over the malcontents of that state. Willard is a conservative Republican and supported Hampton in all his struggle with the Chamberlain gang of carpet-baggers. Hampton believes that the success of his administration depended on Willard's being made chief justice. Willard will not be antagonistic to the Democrats, and as the vacancy on the bench will be filled by a Democrat they will have a majority of the court.

A NEW and strange insect has made its appearance in the blue grass regions of Kentucky, and is destroying much of the grass in that section. A Kentucky exchange says that the insect looks the like slugs that appear on rose buds, and although very small, is dreadfully voracious. This is the only enemy that blue grass has ever had, and gives cause for the great uneasiness that is felt. Wherever the insect appears the grass presents a white, dry appearance. The insects have been examined through microscopes, and they were found hideous enough to be dreaded.

DURING the twelve years in which the carpet-baggers had control of the state government of South Carolina nearly a million and a half of dollars were appropriated for the equipment and maintainance of the state militia; and yet a few days ago when the Radical adjutant general of the state turned over the arms, etc., in his possession to his successor, all there was of them was about one hundred worthless muskets, and a few thousand ruined cartridges. This is a very bad showing, considering the large amount of money appropriated on account of the militia, and the question is now asked where did the money go to? The biggest end of it undoubtedly went into the carpet-bags of the villians who so long prayed upon the state.

THE fame of the American carpet-bagger is not confined to his native land. He is known to the inhabitants of the farthermost portions of the earth as a creature to be hated and despised. The London (England) *Standard* in a lengthy article on the "American carpet-bagger," concludes as follows:

We may hope the period of so-called "carpet-bag" government in the South—the rule of Northern adventurers supported by ignorant negro votes in the teeth of the whole educated and taxpaying body of citizens—is at an end. Only the most extreme Radicals will regret it. The men who, taking advantage of the disfranchisement of great bodies of Southern whites and the proscription of every leading Southern statesman and soldier, took up the trade of agitators in order to make themselves rulers of states in which they had no legitimate interest, have done nothing to benefit the negro, much to injure the whites, and still more to produce bitterness and distrust between the two races.

REPORTS from the scene of the Eastern war all go to prove that a great battle will be fought soon, and perhaps it is now in progress. For the last week the Russians have been concentrating in large numbers at Giurgevo, preparatory to a forced passage of the Danube. The Russian army is reported to be in fine condition and excellent spirits, and anxious for the coming slaughter. Opposite Giurgevo, in Rustchuk, the Turks have a strong force, and that they will resist the efforts of the Russians to cross the river is certain, and it is at this point that the bloody struggle will in all probability take place. Great activity is reported all along the Russian line. Heavy cannonading was heard on the Turkish side of the Danube, and a number of small towns below Rustchuk are reported to have been destroyed by the Russian artillery. The Russians are considerably embarrassed on account of a lack of transportation facilities, and their movements have been greatly retarded. The Turkish commanders along the Danube have issued manifestoes urging the inhabitants, in view of the impending battle, to remove further inland toward the Balkan mountains. A number of light engagements are reported to have taken place at points of minor importance, but they are of slight consequence compared with the great struggle to take place on the Danube. The Turks have captured two hundred small vessels in the Danube, containing 13,000 hectolires of wheat.

THE "SOLID SOUTH."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* has just returned from a tour of the southern states, and in a late letter to that paper gives a very gloomy account of the condition of the Republican party south. He believes that the Radical party in the southern states is dead beyond resurrection; and at the same time scouts the idea of a break in the Democratic ranks. The Democratic party in the cotton states, so far as this correspondent was able to see, is more firmly united than ever, and all efforts on the part of Mr. Hayes and the administration to disorganize it have failed utterly. On this score the *Times* correspondent writes as follows:

After an extended tour through the South, made principally in the hope of finding some evidence of approaching Democratic disorganization, I am compelled to express the conviction that on all national questions the Southern states for years to come will be found casting a solid Democratic vote. In making the statement I only echo the opinion of every well-informed Republican who has lived or traveled in the cotton states. That even Postmaster-General Key is beginning in some measure to share this belief is strikingly evidenced by his recent letter to his brother, in which occurs the remarkable statement that if the south does not support the national administration, the federal offices will be given to Republicans. But if further evidence of the solidity of the southern vote is necessary, it can be found in abundance by reference to any of the newspapers published in the South. In the Middle States, in New England and the West the comments of party journals or party leaders cannot always be taken as an exact expression of prevailing public sentiment. In the sections referred to men and women read, reason and form conclusions for themselves. At the South, however, for a number of reasons which I need not now enumerate, the people have their thinking done to order, so to speak. The expressions of leading newspapers can always be taken as fairly indicating popular opinion, feeling and sentiment; and as I have intimated there is not in the cotton states to-day a leading newspaper that does not rejoice at the solidity of the Southern Democratic vote. And looking at the matter from a Southern standpoint, why should the vote referred to be divided? What have the Southern Democrats to gain by disorganization? It is not usual for victorious armies to disperse. Great political parties only separate when they have been defeated. The Democrats of the South have been successful beyond their most sanguine expectations. They have triumphed where they anticipated disaster, and they would be more or less than human if they did not press forward to fresh victories and still greater conquests.

CHICAGO LETTER.

How A Book Agent Captured the 'Times" Office.

"The Idyl of Fourth Avenue."

Blue Glass and Green Hair.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 16th, 1877.

A story appeared in last Sunday's *Times* concerning the successful capture of that office by a

BOOK CANVASSER.

Of course the heroine was a young lady, and the young lady as it happened was petite, fragile and fair. She had tresses of gold and eyes of brown with a tawny tinge in them like a hint of the sunshine, to match the same suggestion in her hair. The writer of the story—it was the man who hashes the local column on the *Times*—went on to relate how she approached the editor, and how mysteriously one after another of the newspaperial brethren succumbed to the

PECULIAR INFLUENCE

Of the young lady agent. The only man who held out against the general infection was the paragraphist, and the reason he failed to fall in line with the others was accounted for on the ground of a striking resemblance which existed between the book agent and his wife. It was supposed he had become fortified by long practice against similar attacks. The *Times* writer interested himself sufficiently in the book canvasser to make some inquiries concerning her and from these he has woven a

PLEASANT LITTLE ROMANCE

wiading up with a marriage between a certain naval officer in Boston and the heroine. The only essential element lacking in the romance is truth. The girl was not engaged to a naval officer and is not yet married. She never had a brother and therefore was deprived of the chance of displaying that sisterly devotion which the *Times* man so graphically portrayed as existing towards that imaginary individual. The reason of her leaving home could be summed up in one sentence. She had a step-mother. The editor referred to is Franc Wilkie, and the story ought to be told to illustrate *him*—or at least one side of him; for he is altogether a kaleidscopic man.

The girl canvasser—she was

NEW TO THE BUSINESS—

Did see him in his sanctum; bearded the lion in his den, as it were, but when he found she was only a book agent, his brows corrugated themselves into a black, thunderous line down over his eyes emiting portentious lightning, and he made some harsh reply to her timid advance. It was more than enough. The brown eyes of the girl filled with tears—the sensitive organization had been wounded. Wilkie turned,

SAW WHAT HE HAD DONE,

and instantly all the gallantry in his nature came bravely to the rescue. "Give me your book!" he cried, and at once his name went down on the subscription list. Then he summoned every available man in that office to his room, and down went *their* names on the same list. The victory thus begun at headquarters of course communicated itself to the rank and file, and it was therefore comparatively easy to capture the composing room.

So this is the whole story in brief. It has a moral. It is to the effect that the hearts of men are not adamant, even towards book agents, and that when the right spring is touched, the rocky portals fly open, often disclosing a good deal of unexpected tenderness and warmth.

THE "EDITOR" MENTIONED

In this case is like a chestnut burr, bristling with repellant points outside, fruited rich with a big heart inside.

This is the way the story begins, and altogether it is a genuine prose poem brimming over with the very

PATHOS OF EXPRESSION.

The man who could write it reveals a nature capable of the keenest sympathy and an intuition so penetrating that if one did not know the writer to be masculine it would naturally be credited to a woman. If Bret Harte had been the author of the sketch he would have christened it "The Idyl of the Fourth Avenue Ghoulery," or some such pretty flourish of trumpets.

CYNTHIA LEONARD,

A woman of well known literary reputation in Chicago, is writing a historical novel on "The Last of the Senecas"—which brings in Red Jacket, of course, largely. She attempts to show that Free Masonry was discovered in the confederation of the Iroquis, and that the church and land companies—especially the Ogden land company—combined to defeat a high degree of Indian civilization.

It is a serious charge to be laid at the door of the churches.

THE BLUE GLASS MANIA

has subsided, but the azure panes dotting the city by sections show at what a high water mark it reached. *Now*, if anybody indulges in the violet ray it is dubbed a "Pleasantonian experiment." I had occasion to visit a north-side office the other day in which a blue glass window served to refract the rays of light. I inquired about the effect and whether it lent a tonic propriety to the room.

"Here's one effect," said the gentleman at the desk, plucking at a lock of his chestnut hair. "Do you see that hair?"

"Well?"

"It was brown, but now, I vum, it's green!"

Sure enough the hair on one side of his head, which the blue rays had flooded with a daily baptism, was transformed into a rich dark green. I thought of the Jumblies:

"Few and far, far and few
Are the lands where the Jumblies live.
And their hair is green and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a seive."

Their hair probably became green through the reflection of light from their blue hands.

MC'VICKERS

gave us a delightful entertainment last week with "Tom Cobb" and "Sweethearts"—both of them Gilbert's plays. This week Rose Eytinge holds the boards in "Led Astray" and other well-known productions of the drama. For a wonder, the Chicago citizens like her.

The furore about fire escapes and rope ladders is ebbing. Most of the leading hotels, however, have provided themselves with rope ladders,

THE TREMONT HOUSE

Being among the first to take that important step. Mr. Wilcox leaves nothing undone which is calculated to secure the comfort or safety of his guests. The Tremont is said to have the coolest dining room in the city, and the season is already upon us when such advantages are a decided desideratum.

FUNG WUNG CHOO, OR FOO CHOO WUNG,

The celebrated Chinese lecturer, attracted a good deal of attention here the other day by his rich Chinese dress, long pigtail, and intelligent face. He makes the transit of Chicago quite frequently I am told, and always stops at the Tremont while passing.

Mr. Editor, if your space held out I would like to relate a little story which might be entitled "Legend of a soap man," showing how the humblest aspirations in the most unpretentious lives have their modicum of romance, and that even soap can inspire enthusiasm in the human breast. But this will wait. Meantime the crowning sensation of to-day is that Gail Hamilton has put Joe Medill of the *Tribune* in the rogues' gallery. Wherefore? OWL.

The Eastern War.

A Great Battle Imminent—On the Danube—Heavy Firing—Capture of Russian Vessels.

A GREAT BATTLE IMMINENT.

NEW YORK, May 17.—A special to the *Times* from Giurgevo says a great battle is impending, and already heavy cannonading is in progress.

For several days the Russians have been concentrating in large forces at this point, preparatory to a forced passage of the Danube. This army is in fine condition and good spirits. Opposite to us, in Rustchuk, the Turks are in strong force. That they will resist our advance is certain, and to-morrow or the day after may witness a bloody struggle. The infantry force is at present in great numbers, and as I write are on the march, while great activity prevails in all departments of the army.

SEVERE MUSKETRY FIRING

Is heard on the other of the Danube already. Turkish monitors are hurrying toward this spot, and more advanced ones are taking up positions in the front of or near to a point where the Russians hope to lay their pontoon bridges. To-night the scene on the Danube is indeed a magnificent one. Shells are bursting in the air. Distant camp fires lend enchantment to the scene, and signal rockets ascend and fall and tell the story of advancing forces. Cannonading grows heavier and havier, and at this rate it will not take long

TO DESTROY RUSTCHUK.

The place is the weakest in the quadrangle of Turkish fortresses. Further down the river the sky is reddened by the flames of burning Turtukai. The town has been fired by the Russian guns in Oltenitza. It will be comparatively easy for the Russians to cross at that point. The headquarters of the left wing are still at Ibrail.

News has just reached us that Matschin, some five miles distant from that point, has been set on fire by the Russian artillery.

TWO HUNDRED VESSELS CAPTURED.

The Turks have captured 200 Russian vessels in the Danube, containing over 13,000 hectolitres of wheat. A reconnoitering expedition of 500 Russian infantry crossed the Danube in boats a little below Reni. The Turks allowed them to come well into range, when they opened such a heavy fire that the Russians were compelled to retreat to their boats, with serious loss. The Russians have crossed the Aluta and entered Little Wallachia, which it was expected would be occupied solely by Roumanians. Russian floating batteries on the Danube are small, but ingeniously made, consisting of three pontoons joined together. Each battery carries one gun. The pontoons were floated down the Pruth and joined the Russians. They have some larger steamers. Gen. Skobeliff's division of Circassian Cossacks, intended to head the advance of the invasion, is passing through Bucharest en route for the Danube.

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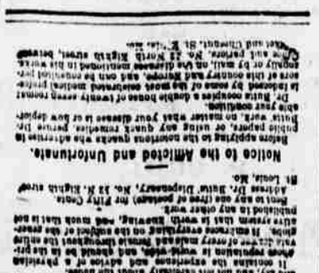

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Mother, 'tis our wedding day!
Just as now, we sat at supper
when the guests had gone away;
You sat that side, I sat this side,
Forty years ago to-day!
Then what plans we laid together;
What brave things I meant to do!
Could we dream to-day would find us
At this table—me and you?
Better so, no doubt—and yet I
Sometimes think—I cannot tell—
Had our boy—ah, yes! I know, dear;
Yes, He doeth all things well.
Well we've had our joys and sorrows,
Shared our smiles as well as tears;
And—the best of all—I've had your
Faithful love for forty years!
Poor we've been, but not forsaken;
Grief we've known, but never shame—
Father for Thy endless mercies
Still we bless Thy Holy name:

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